

OCT 12 2004

<p align="center">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	Application Number	09/817,797
	Filing Date	03/27/2001
	First Named Inventor	Michael HERMANN
	Group Art Unit	2872
	Examiner Name	Audrey Y. Chang
	Attorney Docket Number	741124-79

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 30092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000). 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on August 6, 2004
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Submission Under 37 CFR § 1.114(a)

ii. ☒ Fee Transmittal for FY 2005

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings

v. ☐ Petition for Three-month Extension of Time

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☒ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of Three (3) months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380(741124-79)

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) - \$395.00


ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

395. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed


c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	David S. Sofran	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	27,997
Signature		Date	October 12, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at 703-872-9306 on October 12, 2004

Signature:	
Name:	Kathleen M. McManus

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